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characteristic consonant of another diminutive suffix *il* (*el*, *al*); 2505, *Schuld* in the sense of 'guilt' does form a plural in archaic speech and in poetry (cf. Luther's *Und vergib uns unsre Schulden*, 2605); the O.H.G. adjective is *wanawizi*, more commonly *wanawizzi*, M.H.G. *wanawizze(c)*, not *wana wizi*, etc.

Other points in the notes: 86, the emendation is worse than the original; the simple fact is that the words *Da sie* are understood in line 88.—143. *hochfahrend* and *hochtrabend*, but *hochföhrtig*?—189. The final *e* is here required for the *Senkung*; it is elided only where it is superfluous.—251. *Unwillig* 'unwillingly,' but not 'unwilling.'—269. *Sonst* 'formerly.'—311. 'His brutal embrace,' not 'his foul embrace.'—329 and 2826. Bothwell himself stated in his will that he had won Mary's love only by means of magic potions.—2014. What do the words "now even" mean in this connection?—2352. Aug. 24-25, not 23-24.—2422. Quotation from Wallenstein: *verführt*, not *verführte*. P. 255, Elizabeth is *obliged* to banish Lord Burleigh?

We have noticed only two misprints: p. xxiv *Darley* for *Darnley*; note to 2769, *bosen* for *bösen*.

The book is attractively gotten up and is, on the whole, despite its defects in matters of detail, one of the best school editions now available.

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GERMAN LITERATURE.

Geschichte der deutschen Litteratur von der ältesten Zeit bis zur Mitte des elften Jahrhunderts. Von JOHANN KELLE. Berlin: Wilhelm Hertz (Bessersche Buchhandlung), 1892. 8vo, pp. 435.

WACKERNAGEL's history of German literature and Kögel's treatise on High and Low German literature in Paul's 'Grundriss' make one at first doubt the *raison d'être* of such a book as this. The method of treatment pursued by Kelle differs, however, so much from either Wackernagel's or Kögel's, the book before us is so scholarly throughout, and its author shows such thorough acquaintance with the latest investigations, that it will soon

find a place among the standard works on the subject.

In eight chapters or "books" the author presents (without a word of introduction, a very commendable proceeding) the history of German literature from the oldest times to the death of Konrad II (1039). Clearness and directness characterize the style throughout. Wherever it is possible (and this adds an important element of value to the book), the author shows the political background of the period under discussion. The position of the Franks and their influence on the evolution of German literature is brought out with skill, as is also the part played by Christianity in the development of German culture and the German language.

Kelle's literary criticisms are less satisfactory than his method of presentation. The discussion of the Hildebrandslied and of the Heliand lacks vividness, and, to our mind, the author exaggerates Otfried's merit.

The arrangement of the book leaves room for improvement. The text contains much that belongs to the notes; for example, the long discussions of the texts. In the notes Kelle might have followed Kögel's example and characterized with a few words the most important books he mentions. One is plunged into long lists of works which are meaningless to all who have not worked in the particular field of German literature they deal with.

On p. 3 we find mention of the "asiatische Urheimat" of the Germans. It is certainly unwise to make such a statement without in some way referring to the theory of the European home of the Aryan races. On pp. 4 ff. Kelle reproduces in detail Cæsar's and Tacitus's accounts of Germany, where it would have been very much more satisfactory to give the results of modern investigations, or at least state where the ancient sources are not reliable. So the sentence "Jeder Staat suchte möglichst weite Einöden und Wüsten-eien an seinen Grenzen zu haben" (p. 4) needs a comment (cf. Dahn, 'Urgeschichte,' pp. 72-73).

Why ask, on p. 119, whether the poet of the Heliand clothed his subject-matter in popular garb simply as a concession to his public or because he was brought up in such views,

when the latter seems so much more probable? The spirit of the whole poem is so consistently Germanic as contrasted with Hebrew, that we should have to presuppose remarkable skill on the part of the poet to enable him to affect the tone he strikes without betraying his real spirit.

On p. 201 the author ought not to speak of the Latin Nibelungenlied without mentioning the reasons for doubting its ever having existed. We should here expect a reference to Müllenhoff's 'Zur Geschichte der Nibelunge Not,' p. 75. To the literature on Waltharius (p. 388) might be added 'The Saga of Walther of Aquitaine' by M. D. Learned, *Publications of the Modern Language Association of America*, vol. vii, no. 1.

The treatment of the Heldensage and the chapter on Otfrid should be mentioned for their excellence. Kelle shows with much skill in how far Otfrid's poem is an exponent of Germanic life. There would have been no harm, by the way, in at least mentioning Piper's view of the Otfrid texts.

The notes on Muspilli (p. 358 ff.), contain a valuable investigation on the date of that poem. A study of the St. Emmeraner Urkunden (cf. 'Grundriss,' ii, p. 212) has led Kelle to fix the date of Muspilli a little later than the middle of the ninth century.

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FRENCH LITERATURE.

Le Moulin Frappier, par HENRI GRÉVILLE.

Adapted and edited for use in schools and colleges by James Boïelle, B. A. (Univ. Gall.). London: Whittaker & Co.; New York: Macmillan & Co.; 1893. Text, pp. 233; Notes, pp. 40.

IN this handy little volume, Henri Gréville's charming novel is made to do a duty very different from that proposed by the author. In the opinion of the author and, in general, from an artistic point of view, a book of pure literature is doubtless mutilated by being cut down, as in this case, to a little more than one third of its original form. But in any case, a book of high literary merit is degraded when used mainly for the purpose of elementary

instruction, and yet teachers of language must of necessity use such material.

Condensed and abridged forms of texts are, therefore, justified by their usefulness for school purposes, and we may add that outside of the schools, many general readers are likely to enjoy the shorter form, when they would not undertake the original.

'Sans Famille,' of Malot, 'Les Trois Mousquetaires,' of Dumas, 'Soll und Haben,' of Freytag, and other valuable specimens of foreign literature, thus condensed, have come into the hands of a wider public.

In his Notes, Prof. Boïelle has given many examples of clever, idiomatic translation, has explained foreign customs and institutions, and brought out, systematically, important laws of grammar.

Teachers of French must in the main encourage their students to read widely, and so cannot delay very long on purely grammatical points. But there must always be a safe grammatical foundation, varying in amount according to the aims and circumstances of the instruction; and after the first theoretical work is done, it seems to me advisable, at some time in the lower course, to let the student review the grammar practically by occasional but regular reference to the text under consideration. For such a purpose, Prof. Boïelle's grammatical résumés are very useful. They are not long enough nor numerous enough to be tedious, and besides the teacher will supply plenty of current reading, in which the explanations are as few as possible.

The idiomatic renderings in the Notes will be suggestive and stimulating. It is difficult to lay too much stress upon thoroughly idiomatic translation.

In some cases the note, good enough in itself, seems hardly necessary; as, p. 253 (70, 25), where the regular agreement of *eues* is explained. Similarly we might dispense with the following notes: p. 265 (145, 7); p. 270 (175, 29); p. 273 (196, 16; 198, 9); p. 274 (203, 1; 204, 19); p. 275 (222, 24).

Occasional translations are not happy; for example, p. 236 (4, 3), *je leur ai payé à boire*, *I have stood them drinks*. This has a clever ring, but for the continental customs, it